

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25-26, 29, 33 and 35 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating pulmonary hypertension in an individual, comprising: administering to said individual a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an estradiol metabolite selected from the group consisting of a catecholestradiol and a methoxyestradiol.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said estradiol metabolite is selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxyestradiol, 2-methoxyestradiol, 4-hydroxyestradiol and 4-methoxyestradiol.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising a prodrug of said estradiol metabolite.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said composition comprises a controlled release formulation.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an individual with pulmonary hypertension to lower central venous pressure in said individual, comprising: administering to said individual a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an estradiol metabolite selected from the group consisting of a catecholestradiol and a methoxyestradiol.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said estradiol metabolite is selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxyestradiol, 2-methoxyestradiol, 4-hydroxyestradiol and 4-methoxyestradiol.
7. The method of claim 5, further comprising a prodrug of said estradiol metabolite.
8. The method of claim 5, wherein said composition comprises a controlled release formulation.
9. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an individual with pulmonary hypertension to decrease the heart weight of said individual, comprising: administering to said individual a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an estradiol metabolite selected from the group consisting of a catecholestradiol and a methoxyestradiol.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein said estradiol metabolite is selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxyestradiol, 2-methoxyestradiol, 4-hydroxyestradiol and 4-methoxyestradiol.
11. The method of claim 9, further comprising a prodrug of said estradiol metabolite.
12. The method of claim 9, wherein said composition comprises a controlled release formulation.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an individual with pulmonary hypertension to decrease the lung weight of said individual, comprising: administering to said individual a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an estradiol metabolite selected from the group consisting of a catecholestradiol and a methoxyestradiol.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said estradiol metabolite is selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxyestradiol, 2-methoxyestradiol, 4-hydroxyestradiol and 4-methoxyestradiol.

15. The method of claim 13, further comprising a prodrug of said estradiol metabolite.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein said composition comprises a controlled release formulation.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an individual with pulmonary hypertension to decrease right ventricular hypertrophy in said individual, comprising: administering to said individual a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an estradiol metabolite selected from the group consisting of a catecholestradiol and a methoxyestradiol.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein said estradiol metabolite is selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxyestradiol, 2-methoxyestradiol, 4-hydroxyestradiol and 4-methoxyestradiol.

19. The method of claim 17, further comprising a prodrug of said estradiol metabolite.
20. The method of claim 17, wherein said composition comprises a controlled release formulation.
21. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an individual with pulmonary hypertension to decrease pulmonary vascular resistance in said individual, comprising: administering to said individual a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an estradiol metabolite selected from the group consisting of a catecholestradiol and a methoxyestradiol.
22. The method of claim 21, wherein said estradiol metabolite is selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxyestradiol, 2-methoxyestradiol, 4-hydroxyestradiol and 4-methoxyestradiol.
23. The method of claim 21, further comprising a prodrug of said estradiol metabolite.
24. The method of claim 21, wherein said composition comprises a controlled release formulation.
25. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an individual with pulmonary hypertension to decrease pulmonary vascular fibrosis in said individual, comprising: administering to said individual a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an estradiol metabolite selected from the group consisting of a catecholestradiol and a methoxyestradiol.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25, wherein said estradiol metabolite ~~are~~ is selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxyestradiol, 2-methoxyestradiol, 4-hydroxyestradiol and 4-methoxyestradiol.

27. The method of claim 25, further comprising a prodrug of said estradiol metabolite.

28. The method of claim 25, wherein said composition comprises a controlled release formulation.

29. (Currently Amended) A method of treating heart failure in an individual, comprising: administering to said individual a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an estradiol metabolite selected from the group consisting of a catecholestradiol and a methoxyestradiol.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein said estradiol metabolite is selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxyestradiol, 2-methoxyestradiol, 4-hydroxyestradiol and 4-methoxyestradiol.

31. The method of claim 29, further comprising a prodrug of said estradiol metabolite.

32. The method of claim 29, wherein said composition comprises a controlled release formulation.

33. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an individual with pulmonary hypertension to reduce inflammation, cellular proliferation, vascular remodeling and vascular endothelial growth factor expression in the lungs, heart and pulmonary arteries of said individual, comprising: administering to said individual a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an estradiol metabolite selected from the group consisting of a catecholestradiol and a methoxyestradiol.

34. The method of claim 33, wherein said estradiol metabolite is selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxyestradiol, 2-methoxyestradiol, 4-hydroxyestradiol and 4-methoxyestradiol.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33, further comprising a prodrug of said estradiol metabolite.

36. The method of claim 33, wherein said composition comprises a controlled release formulation.